Appl. No. 10/632,987
Amdt. Dated 11/13/2007
Response to Office action dated 6/12/2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Currently amended): An image forming method of an image forming apparatus that executes ~~an~~ an image forming operation based on ~~the~~ instructions from an information processing apparatus, ~~which~~ the method comprising:

~~receives~~ receiving requests for information on recording paper from an information processing apparatus,

~~transmits~~ transmitting information on recording paper that includes at least information on sizes of recording paper that is available for image forming ~~responding~~ corresponding to the requests for information from the information processing apparatus, and

~~receives and executes~~ receiving and executing print instructions from the aforementioned information processing apparatus after transmitting the aforementioned information on recording paper.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): An image forming instruction method of an image forming apparatus that executes image forming operation based on the instructions from an information processing apparatus, ~~which~~ the method comprising:

~~transmits~~ transmitting print ~~instruction~~ instructions from an information processing apparatus to a specified image forming apparatus,

~~requests~~ for every print job request, requesting information on recording paper ~~to~~ from the specified image forming apparatus ~~responding~~ corresponding to the transmitted print instruction,

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~~determines~~ determining whether recording paper is available or not based on the requested information on recording paper,

~~sends~~ sending print information from the information processing apparatus to the image ~~processing~~ forming apparatus when it determines recording paper is available, and

~~notifies the~~ notifying an operator that recording paper is not available when it determines recording paper is not available.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A method of operating an information processing apparatus comprising

receiving a print instruction for a print job, wherein the print instruction includes a selected paper type to be used for the print job and specifies an image forming apparatus to receive the print job

requesting paper availability information from the specified image forming apparatus before the print job is sent to the specified image forming apparatus

receiving the paper availability information from the specified image forming apparatus, wherein the paper availability information specifies what types of paper are available in the specified image forming apparatus

providing options to continue with the print job, to cancel the print job, or to modify the print instruction if the paper availability information indicates that the specified paper type is unavailable in the specified image forming apparatus

transmitting print instructions to the specified image forming apparatus after receiving an information on recording paper from the specified image forming apparatus.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 7 further comprising, sending the print job to the image forming apparatus if the paper availability information indicates that the specified paper type is available in the image forming apparatus.

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Claim 9 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 7 further comprising, in the providing options step, providing an option to wait while the image forming apparatus is adjusted.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 7 further comprising, in the providing options step, providing an option to select a different image forming apparatus.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 10 wherein the option to modify the print instruction is compatible with the option to select a different image forming apparatus.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 10, wherein, before providing the option to select the different image forming apparatus,

requesting paper availability information from at least one different image forming apparatus

receiving the paper availability information from the ~~respective~~ different image forming apparatuses, wherein the paper availability information specifies what types of paper is available in the ~~respective~~ different image forming apparatuses.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 12, wherein the option to select the different image forming apparatus is only provided if the paper availability information from the respective different image forming apparatuses indicates that the specified paper type is available in the respective different image forming apparatuses.

Claim 14 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 12, further comprising providing options to direct the print job to one of the different image forming apparatuses.

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Claim 15 (Original): The method of operating an information processing apparatus of claim 14 wherein the option to modify the print instruction is compatible with the option to select a different image forming apparatus.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 7 wherein the selected paper type is a default paper type.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): A computer ~~program product~~ usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing a processor to ~~comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing a processor to~~

receive a print instruction for a print job which includes a selected paper type to be used for the print job and specifies an image forming apparatus to receive the print job

request paper availability information from the specified image forming apparatus before the print job is sent to the specified image forming apparatus

receive the paper availability information from the specified image forming apparatus, wherein the paper availability information specifies what types of paper are available in the specified image forming apparatus

provide options to continue with the print job, to cancel the print job, or to modify the print instruction if the paper availability information indicates that the specified paper type is unavailable in the specified image forming apparatus

transmit print instructions to the specified image forming apparatus after receiving an information on recording paper from the specified image forming apparatus.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 17 having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing the processor to send the print job to the image forming apparatus if the paper availability information indicates that the specified paper type is available in the image forming apparatus.

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Claim 19 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 17 having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing the processor to provide an option to wait while the image forming apparatus is adjusted.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 17 having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing the processor to provide an option to select a different image forming apparatus.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 20, wherein the option to modify the print instruction is compatible with the option to select a different image forming apparatus.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 20 having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing the processor to, before the option to select the different image forming apparatus is provided,

      request paper availability information from at least one different image forming apparatus

      receive the paper availability information from the ~~respective~~ different image forming apparatuses, wherein the paper availability information specifies what types of paper is available in the ~~respective~~ different image forming apparatuses.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 22 having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing the processor to provide the option to select the different image forming apparatus only if the paper availability information from the respective different image forming apparatuses indicates that the specified paper type is available in the respective different image forming apparatuses.

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Claim 24 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 22 having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing the processor to provide options to direct the print job to one of the different image forming apparatuses.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 24, wherein the option to modify the print instruction is compatible with the option to select a different image forming apparatus.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): The computer ~~program product~~ usable medium of claim 17, wherein the selected paper type is a default paper type.

Claims 27-36 (Canceled)